19. OCCURRENCE OF THE GIANT WATER BUG, BELOSTOMA INDICUM LEP. & SERV., IN KHASI HILLS

Recently, on 24 November 1967, we collected a specimen, *Belostoma indicum*, from a side stream of the Umiam River, near Barapani (3,500 ft.) in the Khasi Hills. The specimen agrees with published descriptions of the species except that its underside is greenish instead of being brownish. Length 74.5 mm. This appears to be the first record of this species from eastern India, though the species is known from south and west India and from countries to the east of India.

Zoological Survey of India, Eastern Regional Station, Shillong-4, December 15, 1967.

R. K. VARSHNEY S. BISWAS

20. ON THE HOLOTHUROIDEA (ECHINODERMATA) OF THE GULF OF KUTCH

This paper gives a brief account of the Holothuroid Echinoderms of the Gulf of Kutch. The material for the study was collected from the intertidal zone of Okha, Adatra, Beyt Balapur, Poshitra and Dona Reef and dredged off Pirotan Island, at four to seven metres depth, during 1966 to 1968.

The collection represents six species, belonging to four genera and three families. Of these, *Holothuria ocellata* is a new record to the Indian coast and *Acaudina molpadioides* and *Thyone sacella* are recorded for the first time from the west coast of India.

Family MOLPADIDAE

Genus ACAUDINA Clark

Acaudina molpadioides (Semper).

Flesh coloured with golden spots when alive; preserved specimens dull brown; lying fully exposed on mud.

Family DENDROCHIROTAE

Genus ACTINOCUCUMIS Ludwig

Actinocumis typica Ludwig.

Colour in life dull to deep grey; collected from rock crevices, sometimes rocks had to be broken to remove closely adhering animals; off Pirotan, specimens were obtained from a bottom of sandy mud mixed with dead bivalve shells.

Genus THYONE Oken

Thyone sacella (Stolus) Selenka.

Colour in life dark brown with deep violet crown of tentacles; collected from crevices of rocks.

Genus HOLOTHURIA Linnaeus

Holothuria ocellata Jaeger.

Colour in life purplish brown to black; found in sandy pools.

Holothuria pardalis Selenka.

Colour in life varies from dark brown to purplish with 9-10 black spots; collected from beneath or inside crevices of stones.

Holothuria ocellata Jaeger.

Colour in life deep grey with six to seven dark ocelli on dorsal side, white rings around papillae on dorso-ventral margin seen in some cases; collected from within or underneath stones in gravel mud, dredged from sandy mud mixed with dead bivalve shells.

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P. GOPALAKRISHNAN